

(1) That compliance with the summons may be stayed if written direction is given by the person receiving notice to the person summoned not to comply with the summons.

(2) That a copy of the direction not to comply and a copy of the summons shall be mailed by registered or certified mail to the person summoned at the addresses in the summons and to the issuing Customs officer.

(3) That the actions under paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section shall be accomplished not later than the day before the day fixed in the summons as the day upon which the records are to be examined or testimony given.

(d) *Service of notice.* The issuing officer shall serve the notice required by paragraph (a) of this section in the same manner as is prescribed in § 162.1f for the service of a summons, or by certified or registered mail to the last known address of the person entitled to notice.

(e) *Examination precluded.* If notice is required by this section, no records may be examined and no testimony may be taken before the date fixed in the summons as the date to examine the records or to take the testimony. If the owner, importer, consignee, or their agent, or any other person concerned issues a stay of the summons, no examination shall take place, and no testimony shall be taken, without the consent of the person staying compliance, or without an order issued by a U.S. district court.

(f) *Exceptions to notice—(1) Personal liability for duties and taxes.* This section does not apply to any summons served on the person, or any officer or employee of the person, with respect to whose liability for duties and taxes the summons is issued.

(2) *Verification.* This section does not apply to any summons issued to determine whether or not records of the import transactions of an identified person have been made or kept.

(3) *Court order.* Notice shall not be given if a U.S. district court determines, upon petition by the issuing Customs officer, that reasonable cause exists to believe giving notice may lead to an attempt:

(i) To conceal, destroy, or alter relevant records;

(ii) To prevent the communication of information from other persons through intimidation, bribery, or collusion; or

(iii) To flee to avoid prosecution, testifying, or production of records.

§ 162.1h Enforcement of summons.

Whenever any person does not comply with a summons issued under § 162.1d, the issuing officer may request the appropriate U.S. attorney to seek an order requiring compliance from the U.S. district court for the district in which the person is found or resides or is doing business.

§ 162.1i Failure to comply with court order.

(a) *Importations prohibited.* If a person fails to comply with a court order enforcing the summons and is adjudged guilty of contempt, the Commissioner of Customs, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, for so long as that person remains in contempt,

(1) May prohibit importation of merchandise by that person, directly or indirectly, or for that person's account, and

(2) May withhold delivery of merchandise imported by that person, directly, or indirectly, or for that person's account.

(b) *Sale of merchandise.* If any person remains in contempt for more than 1 year after the Commissioner issues instructions to withhold delivery, the merchandise shall be considered abandoned, and shall be sold at public auction or otherwise disposed of in accordance with subpart E of this part.

§ 162.2 [Reserved]

§ 162.3 Boarding and search of vessels.

(a) *General authority.* A Customs officer, for the purpose of examining the manifest and other documents and papers and examining, inspecting and searching the vessel, may at any time go on board:

(1) Any vessel at any place in the United States or within the Customs waters of the United States;

(2) Any American vessel on the high seas;

(3) Any vessel within a Customs-enforcement area designated such under